

ROY BLUNT  
MISSOURI

VICE CHAIRMAN, SENATE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE

260 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2508  
202-224-5721

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS

COMMERCE, SCIENCE  
AND TRANSPORTATION

CHAIRMAN, RULES AND  
ADMINISTRATION

SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON INTELLIGENCE

March 30, 2015

The Honorable Gina McCarthy  
Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Mail Code: 1101A  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy,

We write to learn more about the steps the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is taking to protect pollinator health. Given the importance of pollinators, we would like to ensure the EPA is working closely with all stakeholders, is investigating the entire range of possible factors that impact pollinator health, and will follow all administrative requirements before completing any potential rulemakings.

As you know, pollinators play an irreplaceable role in the world's food security. Pollinators are vital to most fruit, vegetable, and nut production and they play a role in nearly \$30 billion dollars in economic activity within the United States each year. In recent years, questions have arisen about pollinator health and populations. Certainly these are serious questions that require a comprehensive, science-based investigation so that we can be sure of the steps needed to continue our food production systems, avoid significant negative economic impacts, and protect the environment.

As EPA is investigating potential impacts on pollinator health, we urge the EPA to closely collaborate with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, members of the White House Pollinator Health Task Force, grower organizations, and stakeholders in prioritizing resources to first use the best science-based research available to understand the overall state of pollinator health in the U.S. We want to be sure that EPA engages grower organizations and other stakeholders most affected by any regulatory review. Those directly engaged are likely to best know the impact of potential agency actions.

In creating the Pollinator Health Task Force last June, President Obama recognized that there is a complex array of factors associated with pollinator health, and focused on conducting greater research and analysis to better understand the variety of factors that influence pollinators. Experts in the field cite multiple possible stressors that are contributing to variability in beehive counts and pollinator populations, including mites, pathogens, genetics, and loss of habitat or forage areas. We ask EPA to take care to investigate all the likely impacts on pollinator health before taking regulatory actions.

Should EPA determine it is necessary for the agency to take further regulatory actions, we urge the agency to follow all of its administrative requirements, particularly as it relates to the use and

registration of pesticides under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act. We have concerns about reports that the agency may be planning to regulate some pesticides, particularly neonicotinoid products, without a sufficient understanding of all the environmental stressors facing pollinators. Neonicotinoid products are an important component of modern agriculture techniques, which have helped American farmers increase productivity, improve cost-competitiveness and continue to produce safe, nutritious food for the world. If EPA does move forward with regulatory actions regarding pesticides, we ask that you work within the existing pesticide regulatory framework, which has helped the agency to regulate in a sound, science-based manner.

Regarding EPA's potential actions designed to improve pollinator health, would you please provide answers to the following questions:

- Has EPA or its partner agencies researched the impact of the varroa mite on pollinator health? If so, how does that agency calculate the impact of the mite on hive counts?
- Most data for hive counts, both domestic and international, show variability predating the use of neonicotinoids in the U.S. and Europe. Does the EPA have data that conflict with this? If so, will you please provide it?
- Last fall the EPA released a study on the benefits of neonicotinoid seed treatments in soybean production. Did EPA conduct similar analyses of the efficacy of seed treatment in other crops? If so, what were the criteria used to select these crops, and were these studies publicly released?
- The soybean report relied on acreage and price data from the US Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Did EPA draw on other USDA data – including seed treatment usage rates and efficacy – in conducting its analysis? If so, what information did USDA provide?
- The soybean study relies heavily on "EPA Proprietary Data." Is comparable publicly available data available? Did EPA seek information from registrants, seed companies or producers?
- How will the soybean study be used in EPA regulatory decisions?
- When EPA is considering product registrations or re-registrations, how often is EPA-initiated research used versus data submitted by the registrant?
- On July 17, 2014, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) announced that it was banning the use of neonicotinoids on USFWS lands. Was EPA consulted by the Service regarding its decision? What guidance did EPA offer?
- In October 2014, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) issued guidance on the use of neonicotinoids and plant materials treated with this class of chemistry on certain federal properties. Was EPA consulted about this action? What guidance did EPA offer?

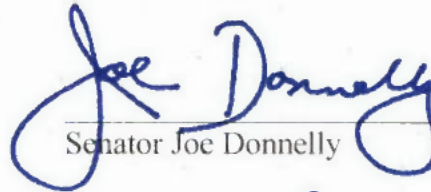
As an estimated one-third of all food and beverages are made possible by pollination, if there was a significant decline in pollinator populations, it would have a serious impact on our diets, economy, and environment. Scientists agree there is a complex set of factors that are impacting pollinator populations and any agency actions could have a significant impact on modern production agriculture. Therefore, it is essential that EPA works closely with all stakeholders and partner agencies, investigates the entire range of possible impacts on pollinator health, and follows all administrative requirements before completing any potential rulemakings.

We thank you in advance for your responses to our questions, and we look forward to working with you to promote pollinator health in a sound, science-based manner.

Sincerely,




Senator Roy Blunt



Senator Joe Donnelly




Senator Pat Roberts



Senator Mike Crapo



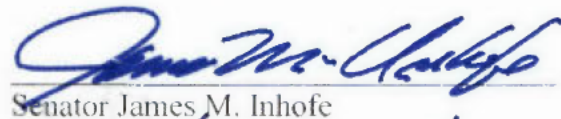
Senator John Boozman



Senator David Perdue



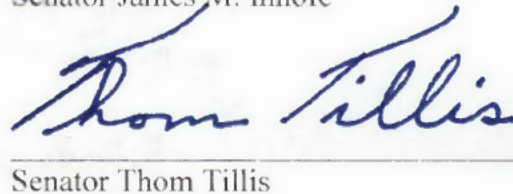
Senator Deb Fischer



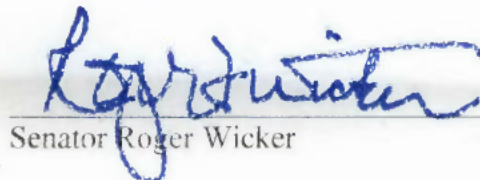
Senator James M. Inhofe



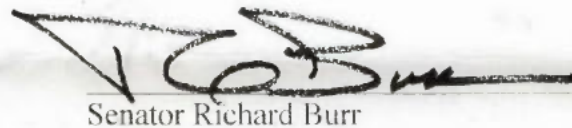
Senator Thad Cochran



Senator Thom Tillis



Senator Roger Wicker



Senator Richard Burr



# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 30, 2015

The Honorable Gina McCarthy  
Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

The Honorable Tom Vilsack  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20250

The Honorable Dr. Ernest Moniz  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20585

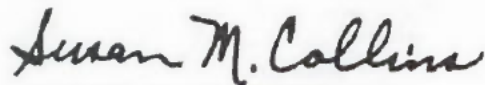
Dear Administrator McCarthy, Secretary Moniz, and Secretary Vilsack:

We write to support biomass energy as a sustainable, responsible, renewable, and economically significant energy source. Federal policies across all departments and agencies must remove any uncertainties and contradictions through a clear, unambiguous message that forest bioenergy is part of the nation's energy future.

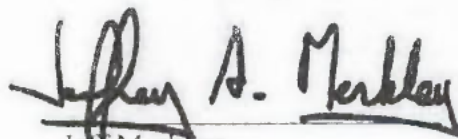
Many states are relying on renewable biomass to meet their energy goals, and we support renewable biomass to create jobs and economic growth while meeting our nation's energy needs. A comprehensive science, technical, and legal administrative record supports a clear and simple policy establishing the benefits of energy from forest biomass. Federal policies that add unnecessary costs and complexity will discourage rather than encourage investment in working forests, harvesting operations, bioenergy, wood products, and paper manufacturing. Unclear or contradictory signals from federal agencies could discourage biomass utilization as an energy solution.

The carbon neutrality of forest biomass has been recognized repeatedly by numerous studies, agencies, institutions, legislation, and rules around the world, and there has been no dispute about the carbon neutrality of biomass derived from residuals of forest products manufacturing and agriculture. Our constituents employed in the biomass supply chain deserve a federal policy that recognizes the clear benefits of forest bioenergy. We urge you to ensure that federal policies are consistent and reflect the carbon neutrality of forest bioenergy.

Sincerely,

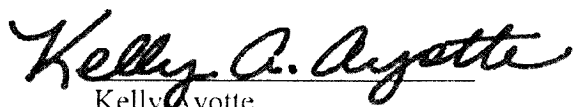


Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator

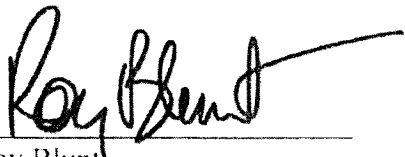


Jeff Merkley  
United States Senator

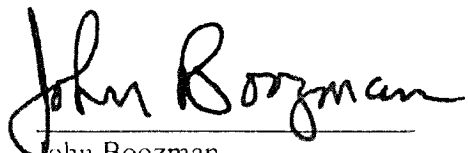




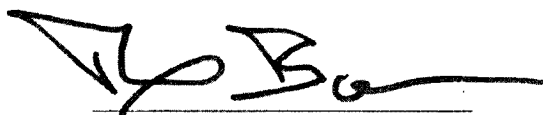
Kelly Ayotte  
United States Senator



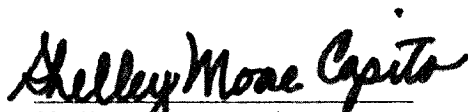
Roy Blunt  
United States Senator



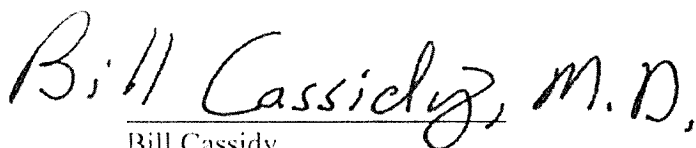
John Boozman  
United States Senator



Richard Burr  
United States Senator



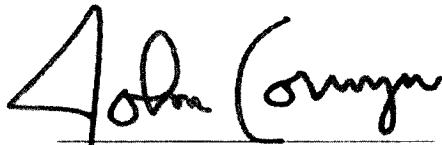
Shelley Moore Capito  
United States Senator



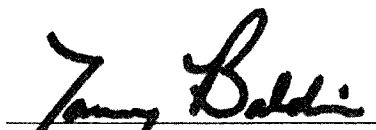
Bill Cassidy  
United States Senator



Thad Cochran  
United States Senator



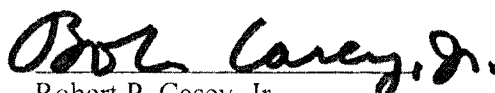
John Cornyn  
United States Senator




Tommy Baldwin  
United States Senator



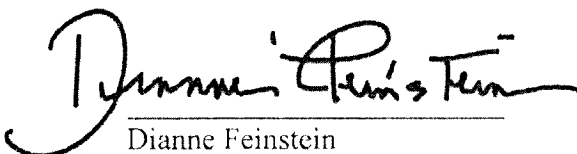
Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator



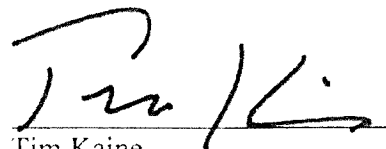
Joe Donnelly  
United States Senator



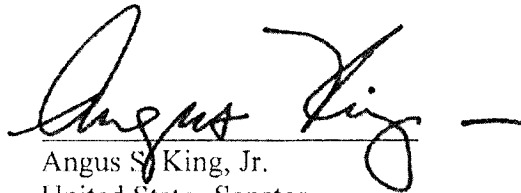
Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator



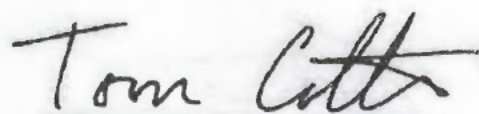
Al Franken  
United States Senator



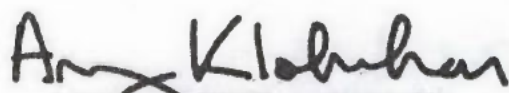
Tim Kaine  
United States Senator



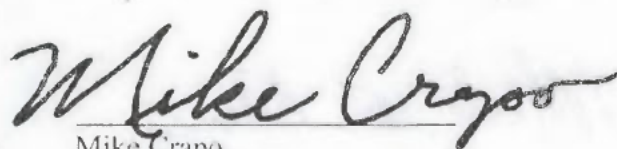
Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator



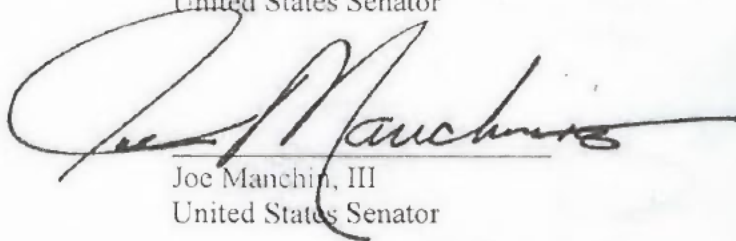
Tom Cotton  
United States Senator




Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



Mike Crapo  
United States Senator



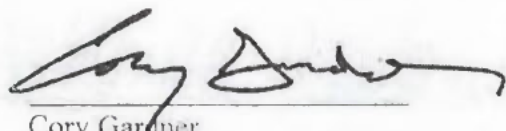
Joe Manchin, III  
United States Senator



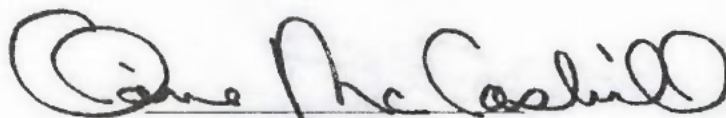
Steve Daines  
United States Senator



Barbara A. Mikulski  
United States Senator



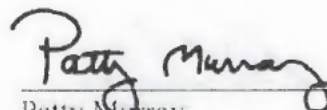
Cory Gardner  
United States Senator



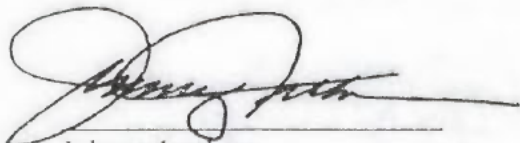
Claire A. McCaskill  
United States Senator



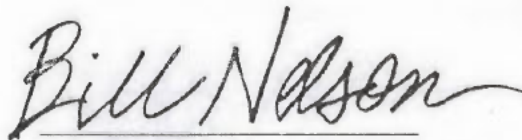
Lindsey Graham  
United States Senator



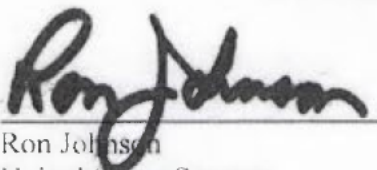
Patty Murray  
United States Senator



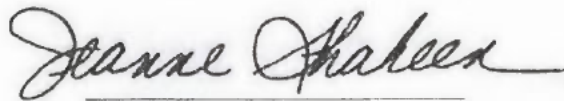
Johnny Isakson  
United States Senator



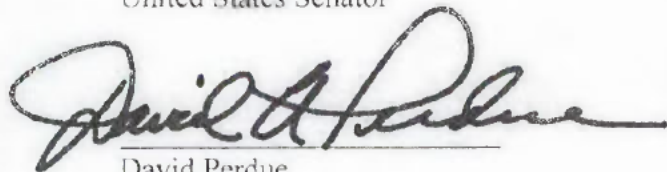
Bill Nelson  
United States Senator




Ron Johnson  
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator




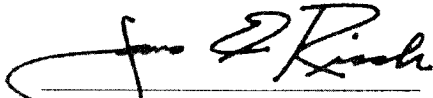
David Perdue  
United States Senator



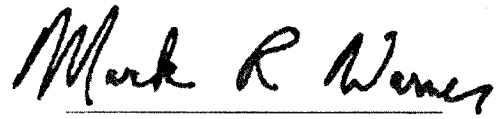
Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator




Rob Portman  
United States Senator

  
Jon Tester  
United States Senator

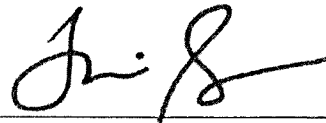
James L. Risch  
United States Senator



Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator



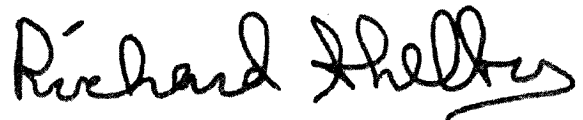
Jeff Sessions  
United States Senator



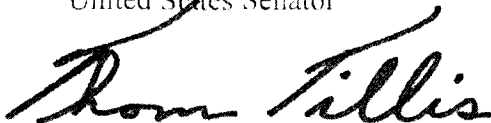
Tim Scott  
United States Senator



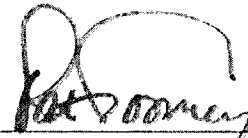
John Thune  
United States Senator



Richard C. Shelby  
United States Senator



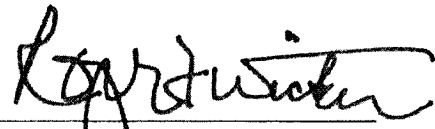
Thom Tillis  
United States Senator



Patrick J. Toomey  
United States Senator



David Vitter  
United States Senator



Roger F. Wicker  
United States Senator







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# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 31, 2015

Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We are writing to you today to urge the withdrawal of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed Clean Power Plan (CPP). As proposed, the plan puts our constituents' energy and economic security at grave risk.

The proposed regulations will require Georgia to fundamentally restructure its electricity generation and delivery system, driving up utility bills with no measurable benefit. EPA's plan is designed to replace low cost power with more expensive and less reliable sources of electricity.

The Georgia Public Service Commission has advised EPA that the CPP would prematurely cause 3900 MW of coal capacity to be retired. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources comments emphasized that as more natural gas goes into the production of electricity, the natural gas infrastructure is not adequate in Georgia to support current demand.

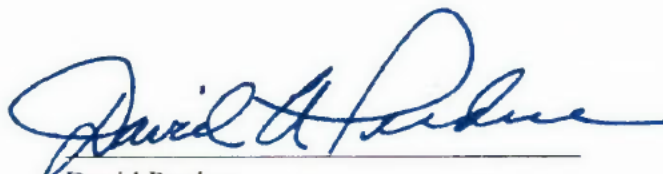
Moreover, the regulations will degrade the reliability of our electric grid. The national overseers of the grid and regional transmission authorities have reached similar conclusions. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation, which sets standards for our electric grid, says implementing EPA's plan will be difficult if not impossible.

The consequences of the EPA's plan for our constituents will be disastrous. The competitiveness of Georgia businesses will be jeopardized along with the high-wage jobs they provide. By imposing substantial costs on Georgia consumers and businesses and placing the supply of affordable and reliable electricity at grave risk, our state will endure economic hardship and our citizens will pay the price.

For these reasons, we urge you to direct EPA to withdraw the CPP due to the serious economic and energy security risks of implementing this irresponsible plan. We appreciate your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

  
Johnny Isakson  
United States Senator

  
David Perdue  
United States Senator



**Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, & Forestry**  
**Agriculture Biotechnology: A Look at Federal Regulation and Stakeholder Perspectives**  
**Wednesday, October 21, 2015**  
**Questions for the Record**  
**Mr. William Jordan**

Chairman Pat Roberts

1. Mr. Jordan, during the hearing you mentioned EPA's efforts related to the Worker Protection Standards rule. While I support efforts to address valid safety issues, I generally have concerns with efforts to add regulatory burdens for farmers and ranchers without clear benefits. In particular, I am curious under what statutory authority EPA worked with the Department of Labor (DOL) in developing the updated Worker Protection Standards and what role DOL played in the process. Can you also describe USDA's role in the rulemaking process and efforts made to address any issues that might have been raised? And, finally, what efforts has EPA taken to engage state agencies, producers, and others in the agriculture community in a meaningful conversation to ensure growers and others have the necessary information to maintain compliance with requirements?
  
2. During the hearing, I was pleased to hear APHIS, EPA, and FDA testify that the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) review of the Coordinated Framework for the Regulation of Biotechnology will inform their consideration of how to best improve the regulation of plant biotechnology for the future. I understand that each agency's plan will allow the White House review, including public meetings and opportunities for public comments, to inform regulatory considerations. I understand that this theme was also expressed by thirteen farmer, scientific, and seed industry organizations in a letter calling for the White House to carefully consider regulatory policy that will continue to protect health and the environment while not stigmatizing new technologies or unnecessarily impeding innovation. What role will OSTP play in ensuring new regulations that impact the commercialization of new plant varieties are not introduced until the White House review has concluded? What assurances can you offer that the OSTP review process will inform the regulatory agencies' considerations for plant biotechnology?

Senator Debbie Stabenow

1. During the Agricultural Biotechnology hearing, Mr. Michael Gregoire, Associate Administrator of APHIS, stated in response to a question that the USDA has the authority to regulate new breeding technologies as it relates to plant and animal health. Can you describe what factors, or criteria, APHIS uses when considering whether a specific breeding technique is determined to be genetic engineering, and whether it poses a threat to plant or animal health?
2. If Congress were to direct USDA to design a mandatory genetic engineering disclosure for food products, how would the Department implement this requirement so that the disclosure would be value-neutral about biotechnology and not misleading to consumers about the food safety of the product?

Senator Joni Ernst

1. Is your agency successfully ensuring food derived from biotech crops is safe for humans and animals to consume?
2. Would you agree that available studies suggest that biotech crops that have successfully completed the U.S. regulatory process have, in fact, had some very positive effects on the environment, including reduced chemical inputs and improved water quality?
3. Mr. Jordan - Recently, there has been some buzz about glyphosate's safety for use as a pesticide, due to the International Agency for Research on Cancer's classification, even though we have been using this product safely for decades, and there isn't a single regulatory agency worldwide that considers it to be a carcinogen.  
Does the EPA believe that glyphosate is safe to use within the prescribed label requirements?

Senator Heidi Heitkamp

1. I was happy to read in USDA's testimony that they're making an effort to speed up—while maintaining the scientific integrity—of the approval process. I think this is absolutely critical to foster innovation. As a witness on the second panel mentions, we do have some issues with weed resistance. This is true in North Dakota, but there are ways to mitigate resistance, and one of those is to provide new tools in our farmers' toolboxes to combat resistance. We've heard the stories of products taking 4 years at USDA and even longer at EPA to get approval—some of which are still waiting the go-ahead. What is EPA doing to streamline its process to make sure producers have access to a more diverse set of options to mitigate current resistance issues and hopefully slow down future resistance?

Senator Patrick Leahy

1. Today, Brazil is the second largest producer of GE soy. The country has had a national requirement since 2004 that requires foods comprised of 1% or more GE components, must present on the product label a triangle on a yellow background with the letter "T" in the center and the expression "contains (name(s)) ingredient(s)) GM(s)." This is a mandatory, national label that simply, in a few words, conveys to consumers that the food contains GE products, but does so without any stigma about GE products. Since that Brazilian legislation was approved, to your knowledge, has there been a reduction in the consumption of GE foods in Brazil or an increase in their consumption?

Senator David Perdue

1. I am concerned that over the last decade new pests and weeds have cost Georgia cotton producers alone over \$1 billion. The USDA has approved traits that would help alleviate the effects of these new varieties of weeds on Georgia cotton producers, but the EPA has not approved the herbicide that works in conjunction with the approved traits. How do we improve the process to make sure growers are getting pest and weed management tools more efficiently?



2. More specifically, how do we improve the communication between regulatory agencies, academia and industry to ensure that we are getting producers the tools they need as quickly as possible?

Senator Ben Sasse

1. During the hearing you indicated that the average time for approvals of applications for registration submitted pursuant to the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act is about 15 to 18 months. On the EPA website there is a report titled, "Implementing the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act FY 2014". Within this report it states that EPA has developed an "improved tracking of pesticide registration decisions". The document states there is a "compiled spreadsheet of all conditional registrations issued since October 1, 1999". According to the "Decision Review Times for FY 2014" spreadsheet, several applications exceed 500 days. Please provide a list of products submitted in 2015, the date they were submitted, any tracking on the "milestones" met during the process, fees paid, public comments received, and EPA's estimated timeline for approval.

Senator John Thune

1. Mr. Jordan, in your testimony, when discussing regulation of plant-incorporated protectants or PIPs you provide, "our decisions are based on the best available science; we operate with consistency and fairness in a transparent manner; and we collaborate fully with our regulator partners in the Coordinated Framework."

You also provide, "The EPA believes we have a responsibility to convey to the public that our decisions are consistent, scientifically solid, and fully protective of human health and the environment."

*Based on the collaborative efforts of EPA, FDA, and USDA/APHIS using sound science to ensure food safety especially for foods derived from genetically engineered plants, do you believe consumers need a GMO label on foods derived from genetically engineered plants?*

2. Mr. Jordan, opponents of biotechnology have been raising questions about the safety of glyphosate herbicide with certain GM crops, notwithstanding its **40-year history of safe use** and the fact that **no regulatory agency in the world considers glyphosate to be a carcinogen**. In April of this year, EPA issued a desk statement regarding glyphosate and the IARC conclusion. In this statement, EPA stated, in part:

“In 2014, EPA reviewed over 55 epidemiological studies conducted on the possible cancer and non-cancer effects of glyphosate. Our review concluded that this body of research does not provide evidence to show that glyphosate causes cancer, and it does not warrant any change in EPA’s cancer classification for glyphosate. This is the same conclusion reached in 2004 by the United Nations’ Food and Agriculture Organization and affirmed this year by Germany’s pesticide regulatory officials.”

*Can you confirm that this is the most recent public statement EPA has issued addressing the safety of glyphosate?*

3. During the hearing you indicated that that the average time for approvals of applications for registration submitted pursuant to the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA) is about 15 to 18 months. By way of follow-up, please produce an itemized list of all registration applications completed within the last 12 months as well as currently pending registration applications (excluding “me-too” applications), at the Biopesticide and Pollution Prevention Division and the Registration Division, along with the date each of those original registration applications were submitted and a statement as to whether or not their pertinent deadlines have been renegotiated. If deadlines have been renegotiated, for each application, please state how many times they have been renegotiated.

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 8, 2017

Mr. Charles Munoz  
USEPA Headquarters  
William Jefferson Clinton Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Mil Code: 1101A  
Washington, D.C. 20460

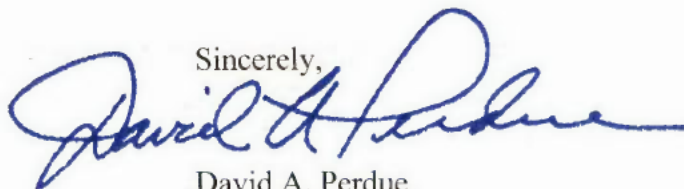
Dear Mr. Munoz,

I am writing to support (b)(6) - Personal Privacy for Southeast Regional Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency. (b)(6) - is imminently qualified for the job. Given his years of experience in local government service and environmental policy, he would be a tremendous asset to the Environmental Protection Agency.

(b)(6) - has spent most of his life working to improve Georgia's water systems. He has managed water resources for Covington, Georgia, and McDonough, Georgia. During his time as City Manager of Locust Grove, Georgia, (b)(6) spearheaded the efforts to revamp the city's sewer system. He also served as Chairman of the Regulated Industries Committee and Vice Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee during his time in the Georgia General Assembly. (b)(6) currently serves as the President of (b)(6) - Personal Privacy, which works to preserve and protect water for small communities in Georgia.

I am confident that that (b)(6) - Personal Privacy experiences in both public and private sector water and sewer management will be of great value to the agency. If I can provide any further information for your consideration, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Sincerely,



David A. Perdue  
United States Senator

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 25, 2017

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

We have been encouraged by the steps you have taken to reduce the regulatory burdens facing this country. From your many Executive Orders to the signing of 14 laws rolling back regulations from the previous Administration, it is clear you share our commitment to reducing the regulatory burden our businesses face in order to create jobs and grow the economy.

One of the most important executive orders you signed is EO 13783, *Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth*, wherein, among other things, you instruct the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to unwind President Obama's Clean Power Plan regulations.

We applaud this objective and encourage you to take every action necessary to ensure it is accomplished.

A key risk to fulfilling this objective is remaining in the Paris Agreement. Because of existing provisions within the Clean Air Act and others embedded in the Paris Agreement, remaining in it would subject the United States to significant litigation risk that could upend your Administration's ability to fulfill its goal of rescinding the Clean Power Plan. Accordingly, we strongly encourage you to make a clean break from the Paris Agreement.

Section 115 of the Clean Air Act addresses the regulatory steps the United States must take to address International Air Pollution. EPA and state government regulatory action of a pollutant are mandated after two tests are met: (1) a finding is established that a pollutant from the U.S. is endangering the public health or welfare of another country; and (2) it is determined that the endangered country gives the U.S. the same rights to prevent or control pollution from that country.

Under the previous Administration, EPA issued an endangerment finding for greenhouse gases and then pursued the Clean Power Plan. Many environmentalists already believe that this finding is broad enough to meet the endangerment test under Section 115, and they would certainly make this argument in court as they fight your efforts to rescind the Clean Power Plan rulemaking.

Environmentalists will argue that these Section 115 requirements are, in fact, met more easily by the Paris Agreement because it includes enhanced transparency requirements in Article 13, which establishes a process for nations to submit plans to reduce emissions to one another and then to comment on the plans of one another.

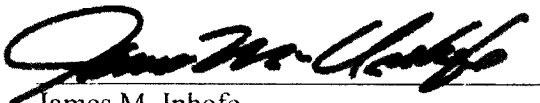
Leading environmental attorneys have been candid that they intend to use the Paris Agreement and the existing endangerment finding to force EPA to regulate under Section 115 of the Clean Air Act.

David Bookbinder, formerly Chief Counsel of the Sierra Club, stated that together the Paris Agreement and Section 115 are the "silver bullet de jour of the enviros." And their intent to use it is real. New York and Vermont Attorneys General recently wrote to their colleagues that "states must still play a critical role in ensuring that the promises made in Paris become a reality." With statements like this, it is clear that those advocating for greenhouse gas regulations will use the Paris Agreement as a legal defense against your actions to rescind the Clean Power Plan if you decide to remain in the Paris Agreement. This is why it is so important for you to make a clean exit from the Agreement.

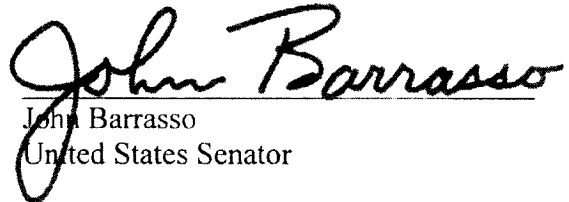
We understand that some officials inside your Administration want to remain in the Paris Agreement to keep a seat at the table so that the U.S. continues to have a voice in future discussions. Fortunately, a clean exit from the Paris Agreement will not take this away. The Senate gave its consent to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1992; this treaty provides a permanent seat at the table for the United States to engage with other countries each year at the Conferences of Parties (COP). In fact, it was through an annual COP meeting in Paris that the Paris Agreement was signed. This permanent seat at the table enabled President Obama to negotiate this deal; this seat remains and will enable you to continue discussions with other nations on this topic should you choose to do so.

Again, we applaud you for your ongoing efforts to reduce overregulation in America. To continue on this path, we urge you to make a clean exit from the Paris Agreement so that your Administration can follow through on its commitment to rescind the Clean Power Plan.

Sincerely,



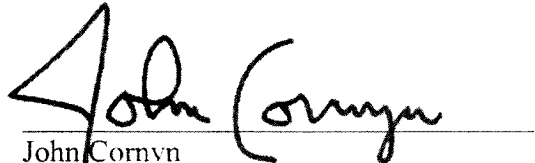
James M. Inhofe  
United States Senator



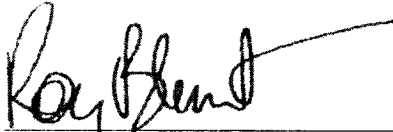
John Barrasso  
United States Senator



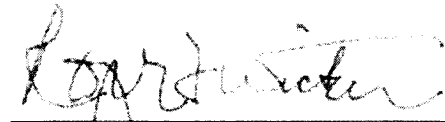
Mitch McConnell  
United States Senator



John Cornyn  
United States Senator



Roy Blunt  
United States Senator



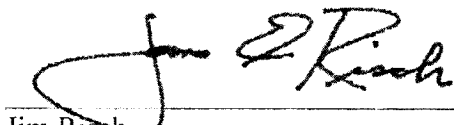
Roger Wicker  
United States Senator




Michael B. Enzi  
United States Senator



Michael D. Crapo  
United States Senator

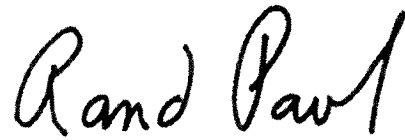



Jim Risch  
United States Senator

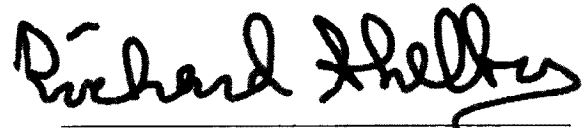


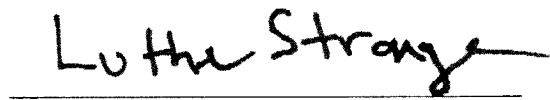
Thad Cochran  
United States Senator

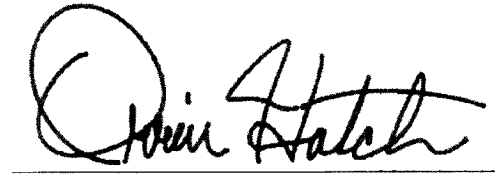
  
M. Michael Rounds  
United States Senator


  
Rand Paul  
United States Senator

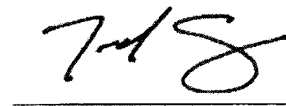
  
John Boozman  
United States Senator

  
Richard C. Shelby  
United States Senator

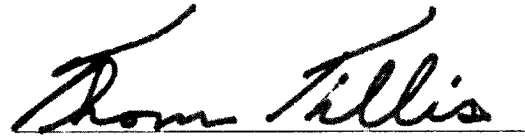
  
Luther Strange  
United States Senator

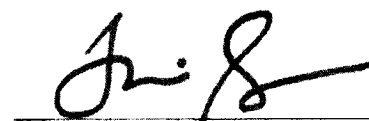
  
Orrin G. Hatch  
United States Senator


  
Mike Lee  
United States Senator

  
Ted Cruz  
United States Senator

  
David Perdue  
United States Senator

  
Thom Tillis  
United States Senator

  
Tim Scott  
United States Senator

  
Pat Roberts  
United States Senator





# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 21, 2017

The Honorable Scott Pruitt  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

We are a bipartisan group of Senators representing states where poultry farming is a key part of the economy. We are writing to share our constituents' serious questions and concerns about recent guidance promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This guidance seeks to implement an April 2017 ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia (*Waterkeeper Alliance v. EPA*) regarding the duty of livestock producers to report air emissions from their facilities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). In our view, this guidance is woefully inadequate and unclear; the EPA must take immediate action to clarify the types of farming operations to which it applies and to simplify the reporting procedure for any farms that must use it.

On April 11, 2017, the D.C. Circuit Court vacated a 2008 EPA rule that exempted most farms from certain release reporting requirements under two statutes, CERCLA and the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act. Following two requests from the Administration, the D.C. Circuit Court extended the effective date of its decision to January 22, 2018.<sup>[1]</sup>

With five weeks remaining before the new effective date, farmers in our states are asking us urgent questions and raising serious concerns about the applicability of the new reporting requirements and the recently issued guidance. Some are unaware of the guidance that your agency has already prepared, while others are frankly stating that they find it to be unclear and unhelpful. Many have expressed frustration trying to navigate a new process with which they have previously had no experience. Quite simply, our constituents deserve better. The EPA must take additional efforts to communicate with farmers on this matter including how to identify, measure, or calculate emissions to determine whether an operation is subject to reporting requirements.

With these concerns in mind, we ask that you review and respond to the following questions, and that you brief our offices on the matter within the next three weeks:

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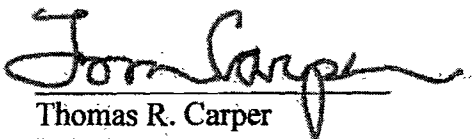
<sup>[1]</sup> <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/dc-circuit-court-grants-trump-epa-request-extend-deadline-farmers-report-emissions>

1. How are you working with farmers and others in the regulated community to help them identify whether they are subject to any new reporting requirements? In light of the D.C. Circuit's ruling more than eight months ago, do you expect to take any further administrative action to clarify the size or levels of emissions produced by farming operations that might be covered by these requirements? Do you anticipate further requesting a delay in the compliance deadline in order to do so?
2. What other federal, state, and local partners are you working with to assist farmers in understanding any new reporting obligations? How are you working with the United States Department of Agriculture in this regard?
3. As we mentioned, some of our constituents have expressed to us that the current reporting process and methodology is confusing. What steps are you taking to simplify your guidance and streamline the reporting process?
4. For farmers who may have limited access to the internet, what steps are you taking to assist these individuals in meeting any new reporting requirements? For those that do have such access, what steps are you taking to simplify reporting?

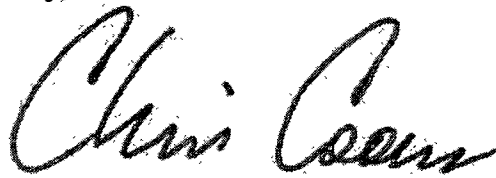
Our farmers care deeply about the environment and pride themselves on being good stewards of their land. We look forward to working with you to ensure that they have the resources they need to adequately understand and determine if they must comply with the EPA's requirements, and we await your prompt response to our information and briefing requests.

For any questions regarding this request, please contact Brian Papp with Senator Carper at 202-224-5042, Leah Rubin Shen with Senator Coons at 202-224-2441, or Jack Overstreet with Senator Isakson at 202-224-3643.

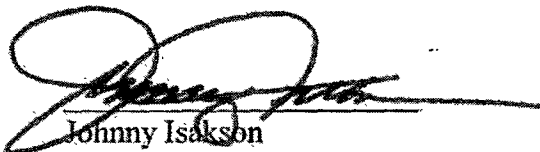
Sincerely,



Thomas R. Carper  
U.S. Senator



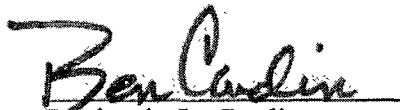
Christopher A. Coons  
U.S. Senator

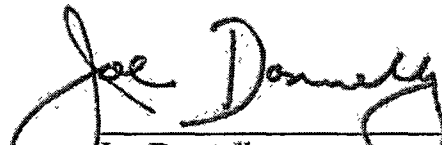


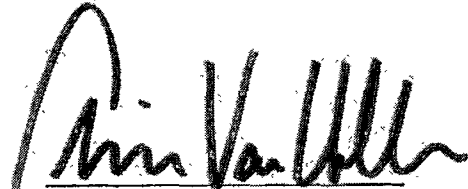
Johnny Isakson  
U.S. Senator





David A. Perdue  
U.S. Senator

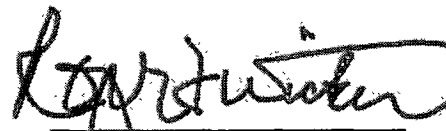
  
Benjamin L. Cardin  
U.S. Senator

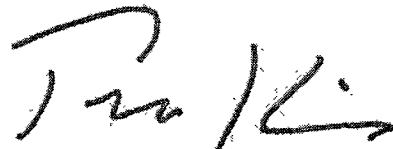
  
Joe Donnelly  
U.S. Senator

  
Chris Van Hollen  
U.S. Senator

  
Joni K. Ernst  
U.S. Senator

  
Mark R. Warner  
U.S. Senator

  
Roger F. Wicker  
U.S. Senator

  
Tim Kaine  
U.S. Senator

CC: The Honorable Sonny Perdue  
Secretary  
United States Department of Agriculture



United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 8, 2018

The Honorable Scott Pruitt  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
William Jefferson Clinton Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:


In 2015, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established updated regulations for the operation and maintenance of underground storage tanks (USTs). The compliance deadline for these regulations is October 13, 2018. Unfortunately, portions of the 2015 regulations, specifically 40 CFR 280.35, impose an overwhelming financial burden on small business petroleum marketers nationwide. These costly regulations require significant capital investments and additional operating expenses on small business retailers over a short period of time. In order to reduce the financial burden on small business retailers and their customers, we request that the EPA extend the compliance deadline to October 13, 2024.

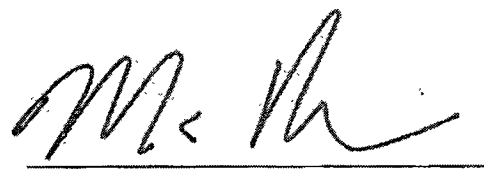
We believe that extending the integrity testing deadline for spill buckets, tank sumps and under dispenser containment equipment, along with operability testing for overfill prevention equipment is warranted. This equipment was not designed to undergo the type of testing the EPA requires without costly modification or replacement. Moreover, much of the equipment already in the ground has not reached the end of its useful operational life. Requiring the replacement or modification of existing equipment would significantly and unnecessarily drive up consumer and business costs by forcing marketers to modify or replace completely functional equipment. A deadline extension would not only provide small business retailers the opportunity to spread compliance costs out over a longer period of time, but also prevent significant cost increases from being passed along to consumers.

The EPA's 1988 UST system upgrade regulations provided a full ten years for the regulated community to comply. By comparison, the 2015 upgrade requirements provide only three years for small business petroleum marketers to comply. By delaying the testing and inspection requirements until October 13, 2024, we can provide these small businesses with the proper time they need to meet the new EPA requirements without increasing environmental risk.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

  
Jerry Moran  
United States Senator

  
Marco Rubio  
United States Senator

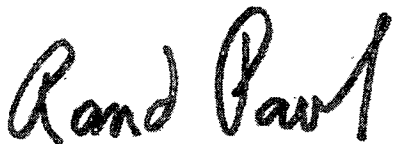




Lindsey O. Graham  
United States Senator




Tim Scott  
United States Senator



Rand Paul, M.D.  
United States Senator



Mike Enzi  
United States Senator



Heidi Heitkamp  
United States Senator



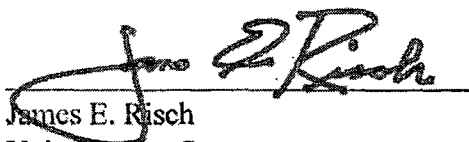
Mike Crapo  
United States Senator



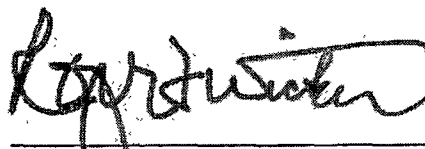
Shelley Moore Capito  
United States Senator



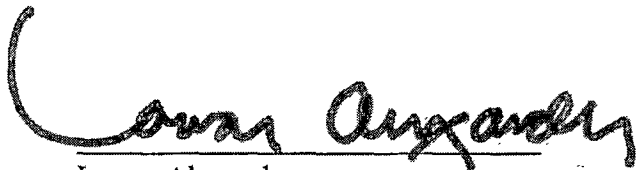
Thom Tillis  
United States Senator



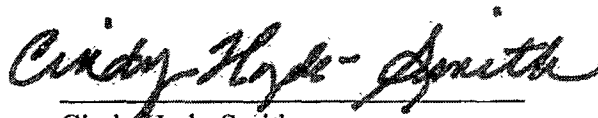
James E. Risch  
United States Senator



Roger F. Wicker  
United States Senator



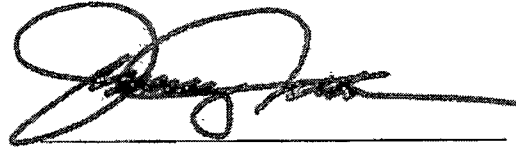
Lamar Alexander  
United States Senator



Cindy Hyde-Smith  
United States Senator



Tom Cotton  
United States Senator



Johnny Isakson  
United States Senator



Pat Roberts  
United States Senator



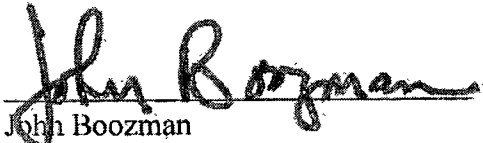
David Perdue  
United States Senator



James M. Inhofe  
United States Senator



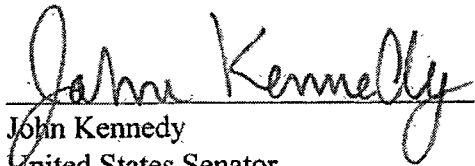
Joe Manchin III  
United States Senator



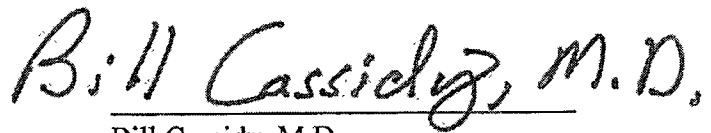
John Boozman  
United States Senator



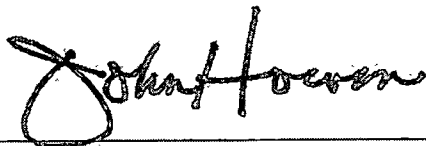
Steve Daines  
United States Senator



John Kennedy  
United States Senator



Bill Cassidy, M.D.  
United States Senator



John Hoeven  
United States Senator



# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 26, 2018

Andrew Wheeler  
Acting Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Office of the Administrator, 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Acting Administrator Wheeler:

In recent weeks, media reports indicated that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) considered a proposal to retroactively reallocate the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) compliance obligations from small refineries, which have received hardship relief, to other refineries and importers. Thankfully, in the proposed rule setting renewable volume obligations for 2019 (the "2019 RVO"), EPA abandoned this ill-considered plan. However, given the requests from biofuel interests, we are writing this letter to state very clearly our strong opposition to any future resurrection of this proposed policy.

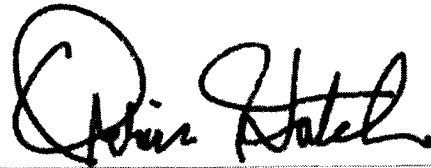
There is little doubt that retroactively reallocating obligations would only compound the problems with the RFS. Simply put, a retroactive reallocation of small refinery obligations to other obligated parties is illegal and fundamentally unfair, imposing a financial penalty on refineries that have otherwise been in compliance with the law. By so doing, retroactive reallocation violates the principles of due process and administrative law and is clearly not authorized under the Clean Air Act. Further, retroactive reallocation injects radical uncertainty into the market for compliance credits, hurting the U.S. refining base, its workers, and the communities they serve.

Retroactive reallocation is also inconsistent with sound energy policy. A robust domestic refining sector is a key element to national security, as administrations of both political parties have found. Refineries are a source of high-paying manufacturing jobs, thousands of which are placed at risk when RFS compliance obligations aren't reasonable and when compliance costs escalate. All of this is placed in harm's way if EPA retroactively reallocates the obligations of small refineries, which have received hardship relief. We urge EPA to maintain the policy articulated in the proposed 2019 RVO and not deviate from sound policy and the law by trying to fashion any form of retroactive reallocation. Any other direction undermines national security, threatens higher gasoline prices for U.S. consumers, and risks economic harm to fuel providers and the loss of manufacturing jobs.

Sincerely,



James M. Inhofe  
United States Senator



Orrin G. Hatch  
United States Senator

*Michael B. Enzi*

Michael B. Enzi  
United States Senator

*Johnny Isakson*

Johnny Isakson  
United States Senator

*John Barrasso*

John Barrasso, M.D.  
United States Senator

*Roger F. Wicker*

Roger F. Wicker  
United States Senator

*James E. Risch*

James E. Risch  
United States Senator

*Joe Manchin III*

Joe Manchin III  
United States Senator

*John Boozman*

John Boozman  
United States Senator

*Pat Toomey*

Pat Toomey  
United States Senator

*Michael S. Lee*

Michael S. Lee  
United States Senator

*Jeff Flake*

Jeff Flake  
United States Senator

*Ted Cruz*

Ted Cruz  
United States Senator

*Shelley Moore Capito*

Shelley Moore Capito  
United States Senator

*Bill Cassidy, M.D.*

Bill Cassidy, M.D.  
United States Senator

*James Lankford*

James Lankford  
United States Senator

*Tom Cotton*

Tom Cotton  
United States Senator

*Steve Daines*

Steve Daines  
United States Senator

*David A. Perdue*

David A. Perdue  
United States Senator

*John Kennedy*

John Kennedy  
United States Senator

*Cindy Hyde-Smith*

Cindy Hyde-Smith  
United States Senator

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 2, 2018

The Honorable Andrew Wheeler  
Acting Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Acting Administrator Wheeler:

We write to bring an issue to your attention impacting the U.S. fragrance industry pertaining to the EPA's implementation of the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act ("Lautenberg Act").

We understand that the EPA has federal responsibility for approving new chemicals used by the fragrance industry, but companies in our states have told us that under the New Chemicals Review Program, no new fragrance molecules have been approved without restriction in the two years since enactment of the Lautenberg Act. Instead, we understand that the EPA has inadvertently halted new chemical innovation by issuing Significant New Use Rules (SNURs) instead of chemical approvals.

Fragrance companies rely on the ability to sell new chemicals to consumer product companies, including those making household cleaners, detergents, and other products. Consumer product companies will not accept materials with SNUR designations due to the high complexity of compliance with these rules and lack of affirmative approval, which renders a new chemical unsellable. This has caused new chemicals to lose their value and affected fragrance companies have effectively lost years of research and millions of dollars invested in the development of innovative new chemicals. The result is a twofold problem for U.S. fragrance companies: new, safe, highly tested chemicals are being registered and sold elsewhere in the world by their competitors; and the previously seamless process of near simultaneous registration of new chemicals in the U.S. and in Canada is being altered.

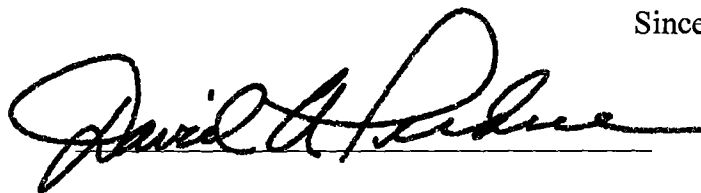
We understand that one unintended consequence is that approval of new environmentally safer, greener, and more sustainable chemicals has been delayed. The congressional intent behind the Lautenberg Act focused on safety, economic growth, and U.S. innovation, but we believe the current processing of fragrance industry applications for new chemicals has hindered these priorities.



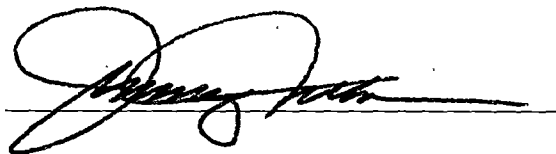
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

We encourage you and your colleagues to review your agency's current treatment of such premanufacture notices (PMNs) and to give fair and transparent consideration to the requests for approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David A. Perdue", written over a horizontal line.

Senator David Perdue

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Johnny Isakson", written over a horizontal line.

Senator Johnny Isakson



# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 24, 2018

The Honorable Andrew Wheeler  
Acting Administrator  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Acting Administrator Wheeler:

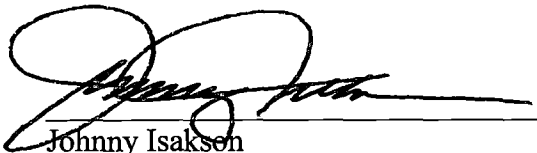
The Glynn County Board of Commissioners and the City of Brunswick have contacted our offices in opposition to the proposed consent decree for remediation of Operable Unit One (OU1) at the Terry Creek Superfund Site located in Glynn County Georgia. We write to you to bring the concerns of many residents of Glynn County to your attention as your Agency moves forward and hope that you will work with other federal partners, including the Department of Justice, to put forth a solution that is beneficial to all parties.

The proposed consent decree lodged on May 16, 2018 by the Department of Justice moves forward with a remedial option for OU1 that many stakeholders in Glynn County feel does not go far enough. Last month, the Glynn County Board of Commissioners and the City of Brunswick passed a resolution outlining their concerns with the current proposed consent decree.

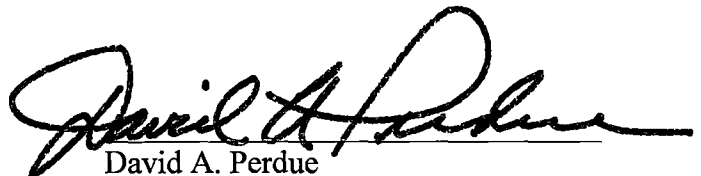
The community is concerned that a solution that fails to fully remove all contaminated materials will have a negative economic impact on the county. The resolution outlines the importance of maintaining a healthy ecosystem for the county's tourism and recreation industries. Additionally, the resolution underscores the difficulty of pursuing economic development opportunities on a property that has contaminated materials contained on site and in a county that is home to more Superfund sites than any other county in Georgia.

Moving forward, we are hopeful that you will be able to strike the appropriate balance between the concerns of our constituents in Glynn County and finishing cleanup at this Superfund site promptly. If we can be of any further assistance in connecting you to local stakeholders, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Kindest regards,



Johnny Isakson  
United States Senator



David A. Perdue  
United States Senator

CC: Assistant Attorney General Jeffrey Clark  
Regional Administrator Trey Glenn





## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY  
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

**NOV 26 2018**

The Honorable David Perdue  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Perdue:

Thank you for the letter of August 2, 2018, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the impact of EPA's new chemicals review program on the fragrance industry.

Your letter raised concerns that no new fragrance molecules have been approved without restriction in the two years since the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) was amended. You also raised concerns with delayed reviews in the new chemicals program.

Since passage of the law, EPA has been working to implement the new law's requirements, to address the backlog of cases that developed, and to improve the efficiency of the new chemicals review process. In addition, as the Agency develops experience with amended TSCA, we have been working through several policy clarifications and process improvements with the aim of facilitating the entry of new chemistries to market and improving the ability to meet the statute's review timeframe.

Since TSCA was amended, EPA has received 26 new chemical notices for fragrances. Of these 26, seven were withdrawn, two received exemption grants, two resulted in regulation through TSCA section 5(e) consent orders and fifteen are still being reviewed. The Agency is committed to a thorough and scientifically sound review process. EPA has completed more than 1,500 new chemical reviews since 2016 and more than 500 new chemicals have become available for use in the market.



Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Sven-Erik Kaiser in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at [kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov](mailto:kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov) or at (202) 566-2753.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy Beck", written in a cursive style.

Nancy B. Beck, Ph.D., DABT  
Deputy Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

**NOV 26 2018**

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY  
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

The Honorable Johnny Isakson  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Isakson:

Thank you for the letter of August 2, 2018, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding new chemicals used by the fragrance industry.

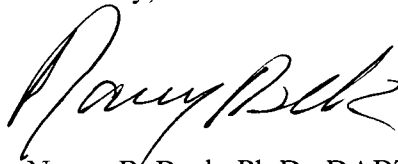
Your letter raised concerns that no new fragrance molecules have been approved without restriction in the two years since the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) was amended. You also raised concerns with delayed reviews in the new chemicals program.

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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Sven-Erik Kaiser in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at [kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov](mailto:kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov) or at (202) 566-2753.

Sincerely,

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Nancy B. Beck, Ph.D., DABT  
Deputy Assistant Administrator





# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 24, 2018

The Honorable Andrew Wheeler  
Acting Administrator  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Acting Administrator Wheeler:

The Glynn County Board of Commissioners and the City of Brunswick have contacted our offices in opposition to the proposed consent decree for remediation of Operable Unit One (OU1) at the Terry Creek Superfund Site located in Glynn County Georgia. We write to you to bring the concerns of many residents of Glynn County to your attention as your Agency moves forward and hope that you will work with other federal partners, including the Department of Justice, to put forth a solution that is beneficial to all parties.

The proposed consent decree lodged on May 16, 2018 by the Department of Justice moves forward with a remedial option for OU1 that many stakeholders in Glynn County feel does not go far enough. Last month, the Glynn County Board of Commissioners and the City of Brunswick passed a resolution outlining their concerns with the current proposed consent decree.

The community is concerned that a solution that fails to fully remove all contaminated materials will have a negative economic impact on the county. The resolution outlines the importance of maintaining a healthy ecosystem for the county's tourism and recreation industries. Additionally, the resolution underscores the difficulty of pursuing economic development opportunities on a property that has contaminated materials contained on site and in a county that is home to more Superfund sites than any other county in Georgia.

Moving forward, we are hopeful that you will be able to strike the appropriate balance between the concerns of our constituents in Glynn County and finishing cleanup at this Superfund site promptly. If we can be of any further assistance in connecting you to local stakeholders, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Kindest regards,



Johnny Isaksen  
United States Senator



David A. Perdue  
United States Senator

CC: Assistant Attorney General Jeffrey Clark  
Regional Administrator Trey Glenn

## United States Senate

July 24, 2019

Mr. Troy Lyons  
Associate Administrator for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 3426 WJC North  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Mr. Lyons:

The attached communication is sent for your consideration and review. I ask that the request made therein be complied with, if possible, according to your policies and regulations. Please examine these statements and forward any necessary information to my office via fax at 404-865-0311 or by mailing it to the following address:

3280 Peachtree Road NE, NE, Suite 2640, Atlanta, GA 30305

Paul Seals is working on this case for me and can be reached at 404-865-0087

Thank you in advance on behalf of this constituent.

Kindest regards,



David Perdue  
United States Senator

**Privacy Act Release Form for the Office of U.S. Senator David Perdue**

Please Return Completed Form to:

Senator David Perdue

3280 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 2640

Atlanta, GA 30305

Phone: 404-865-0087

Fax: 404-816-3435

Email: [casework@perdue.senate.gov](mailto:casework@perdue.senate.gov)

(b)(6) - Personal Privacy

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: Please provide any relevant identification number in order for the appropriate Federal Agency to identify your records pertaining to this inquiry. Not all of the following identification numbers pertain to every constituent. Please provide any number relevant to your personal case.

VA NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ CSA OR CSF NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

OWCP CLAIM(S) NUMBER(S): \_\_\_\_\_

ALIEN IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

IMMIGRATION RECEIPT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

TAX ID NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL AGENCY OR DEPARTMENT: Please specify the name of the Federal Agency or Department involved in the space provided below.

EPA

(b)(6) - Personal Privacy



NATURE OF PROBLEM: Below, please provide a complete statement regarding the nature of the problem and the assistance needed from this office. Please attach copies of any additional pertinent documents.

STATEMENT:

The MARIETTA JOURNAL published AN ARTICLE (JULY 21, 2019) "SMYRNA NEIGHBORHOODS UNAWARE OF AIRBORNE CANCER-CAUSING TOXIN" BY BRENDA GOODMAN WRITTEN BY ANDY MILLER GEORGIA HEALTH.

The article states that in SMYRNA GEORGIA, A Sterigenics plant which STERILIZES medical equipment, implies the plant USE ethylene OXIDE AND IS EMITTING the KNOWN CANCER-CAUSING CHEMICAL AT RATES 27 to 61 times higher than the Acceptable Area CONCENTRATION.

Our homeowner association is most concerned AND NEEDS FACTUAL FEDERAL AND STATE EPA INVOLVEMENT AS TO the ACTUAL ethylene OXIDE EMISSIONS IN the Smyrna area AS well AS WHAT ACTION is being taken ensure our community IS SAFE.



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Ms. Allison Wurtz  
Marketing Director  
Federal Highway Administration  
603 W. Main Street, Suite 504  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Dear Ms. Wurtz:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Federal Highway Administration, along with The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Catrice Jefferson", is positioned above the printed name.

Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Robert Harris  
Vice President, Environmental & Program Mgmt.  
Alabama State Port Authority  
P.O. Box 1588  
Mobile, Alabama 36633

Dear Mr. Harris:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Alabama State Port Authority for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Ms. Tessa Schreiner  
Sustainability and Recycling Manager  
Leon County Board of County Commissioners  
301 S. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Dear Ms. Schreiner:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Leon County Board of County Commissioners for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Jeff Sims  
General Manager II  
Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County  
3629 Queen Palm Drive  
Tampa, Florida 33619

Dear Mr. Sims:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Mike McNeill  
Deputy Director of Environmental Management  
NASA, Marshall Space Flight Center  
Materials and Processes Laboratory - Environmental Effects Branch  
300 E Street SW  
Washington, DC 20546

Dear Mr. McNeill:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the NASA, Marshall Space Flight Center for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Elliot Barnett  
Operations Division Manager  
Sevier County Utility District  
2027 Castaic Lane  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37932

Dear Mr. Barnett:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Sevier County Utility District for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Roberto Santos  
Director of North American Sales  
John Zink Company, LLC  
951 Mariners Island Parkway, Suite 410  
San Mateo, California 94404

Dear Mr. Santos:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the John Zink Company, LLC for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Mark Roberts  
Environmental Resources Project Supervisor  
Miami-Dade County, Air Quality Management Division  
701 NW 1st Court, 2nd Floor  
Miami, Florida 33136

Dear Mr. Roberts:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Miami-Dade County, Air Quality Management Division for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

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Catrice Jefferson  
Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Tim Pagel  
Principal Communications Specialist  
Florida Power and Light Company  
700 Universe Boulevard  
Juno Beach, Florida 33408

Dear Mr. Pagel:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Florida Power and Light Company for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

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Catrice Jefferson  
Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Michael Rochford  
Director, Emissions Regulations and Conformance  
Caterpillar, Inc.  
100 N. E. Adams Street  
Peoria, Illinois 61629

Dear Mr. Rochford:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Caterpillar, Inc. for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

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Catrice Jefferson  
Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Matt Abele  
Clean Transportation Specialist  
North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center  
Campus Box 7409, North Carolina State University  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27695

Dear Mr. Abele:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

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Catrice Jefferson  
Office of Air Policy and Program Support





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Ms. Ashley Bland  
Director  
Blackfeet Homes Limited Partnership #5  
310 West 19th Terrace  
Kansas City, Missouri 64108

Dear Ms. Bland:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Blackfeet Homes Limited Partnership #5 for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

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Catrice Jefferson  
Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Christopher Chope  
Vice President, Sustainability and Process Excellence  
The Port of Virginia  
101 W. Main Street, 600 World Trade Center  
Norfolk, Virginia 23510

Dear Mr. Chope:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank The Port of Virginia for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

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Sincerely,

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Catrice Jefferson  
Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Krag Petterson  
Vice President  
Cooper Environmental Service, LLC  
9403 SW Nimbus Avenue  
Beaverton, Oregon 97008

Dear Mr. Petterson:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Cooper Environmental Service, LLC for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catrice Jefferson", is written over the printed name.

Catrice Jefferson  
Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Ian Welch  
Director Business Development  
Wrightspeed  
2540 Junction Avenue  
San Jose, California 95134

Dear Mr. Welch:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank Wrightspeed for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

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Catrice Jefferson  
Office of Air Policy and Program Support





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Ryan Hulse  
Senior Technical Manager  
Honeywell  
20 Peabody Street  
Buffalo, New York 14210

Dear Mr. Hulse:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank Honeywell for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

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Catrice Jefferson  
Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Ignatius Fomunung  
Interim Director  
University of Tennessee Chattanooga (UTC)  
615 McCallie Avenue  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37403

Dear Mr. Fomunung:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the University of Tennessee Chattanooga (UTC) for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Jonathan Gibbons  
GreenTrips Coordinator  
Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency  
1250 Market Street, Suite 2000  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

Dear Mr. Gibbons:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

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Catrice Jefferson  
Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Ms. Lynn Fiedler  
Air Quality Division Chief  
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
525 West Allegan Street  
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Fiedler:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Ms. Debra Johnson  
CEO  
Eco-Edge, LLC  
7400 W. Detroit Street, #190  
Chandler, Arizona 85226

Dear Ms. Johnson:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Eco-Edge, LLC for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. David Grimes  
Deputy Director  
Southeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission  
1 West Saint Joseph Street, P.O. Box 366  
Perryville, Missouri 63775

Dear Mr. Grimes:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Southeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Ms. Linda Darveau  
Environmental Scientist  
New England Grassroots Environment Fund  
5 Post Office Square  
Boston, Massachusetts 02114

Dear Ms. Darveau:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the New England Grassroots Environment Fund for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Ms. Daria Baxter  
Account Executive  
Ford Motor Company  
1001 Front Street  
San Francisco, California 94111

Dear Ms. Baxter:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Ford Motor Company for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Omar Muhammad  
Community Project Coordinator  
Charleston Community Research to Action Board  
2125 Dorchester Road  
North Charleston, South Carolina 29405

Dear Mr. Muhammad:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Charleston Community Research to Action Board, along with Lowcountry Alliance for Model Communities (LAMC), University of South Carolina (USC), and University of Maryland (UMD), for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Ms. Leslie Rhodes  
Air Quality Director  
Mecklenburg County Air Quality  
700 N. Tryon Street, Suite 205  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

Dear Ms. Rhodes:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Mecklenburg County Air Quality for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

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Catrice Jefferson  
Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Ms. Suzanne MacDonald  
Community Energy Director  
Island Institute  
386 Main Street  
Rockland, Maine 04841

Dear Ms. MacDonald:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Island Institute for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Minor Barnette  
Director  
Environmental Assistance and Protection Advisory Board  
Forsyth County Government Center  
201 North Chestnut Street  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101

Dear Mr. Barnette:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Environmental Assistance and Protection Advisory Board for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

Thank you again for participating in this year's Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. If you have additional questions, please contact me at (202) 564-1668 or [jefferson.catrice@epa.gov](mailto:jefferson.catrice@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

Ms. Allison J. Fouche'  
Strategic Marketing Coordinator  
Memphis Light Gas and Water  
220 S. Main Street  
Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Dear Ms. Fouche':

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Memphis Light Gas and Water for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

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Catrice Jefferson  
Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

Mr. Pat Riley  
General Manager  
Gibson County Utility District  
300 US-45 BYP  
Trenton, New Jersey 38382

Dear Mr. Riley:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Gibson County Utility District for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

Kimberly Bauman, Ph.D.  
Director of Environmental Affairs  
Mississippi Lime Company  
16147 US Highway 61  
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri 63670

Dear Dr. Bauman:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Mississippi Lime Company for recommending Mr. David Grimes for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your nomination was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

The 2016 award recipients will be announced on June 28, 2016, and information regarding the recipients will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/air/cleanairawards>. We greatly appreciate your participation and value your efforts to improve air quality. I hope you continue your efforts toward cleaner air and encourage you to keep the awards program in mind when working on future projects.

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Catrice Jefferson  
Office of Air Policy and Program Support





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

Mr. Peter Hsiao  
Partner  
Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District  
707 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 6000  
Los Angeles, California 90017

Dear Mr. Hsiao:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District for recommending Mr. Theodore Schade for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your nomination was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

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Catrice Jefferson

Office of Air Policy and Program Support





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

May 10, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Tavo Cruz  
President  
Northwest District Association  
2257 NW Raleigh Street  
Portland, Oregon 97210

Dear Mr. Cruz:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, I wanted to thank Northwest District Association, along with John Residential Construction Group, Cairn Pacific LLC, and Capstone Partners for applying for the Clean Air Excellence Award program. We received almost 50 outstanding and innovative award submissions this year and it was difficult to choose the final recipients. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that your project was not selected for a 2016 Clean Air Excellence Award.

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Office of Air Policy and Program Support



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

AUG - 8 2019

The Honorable David Perdue  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Perdue:

Thank you for your July 24, 2019 letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency relating concerns expressed by your constituent, (b)(6) - Personal regarding industrial emissions of ethylene oxide from the Sterigenics facility outside of Smyrna, Georgia. Your letter was forwarded to the EPA Region 4 office in Atlanta for response.

The EPA's most recent National Air Toxics Assessment, which was released in August 2018, and referenced in the article your constituent cited, is based on emissions information from 2014 (the most recent emissions data available at the time the assessment was conducted).

The EPA has been working with our state partners at the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) to gather additional information on ethylene oxide emissions from the Sterigenics facility to better understand the nature of their emissions and what those emissions may mean for the surrounding community. For example, we have learned that between 2014 and 2017, the company added controls that reduced ethylene oxide emissions by over 90 percent.

The EPA's evaluation of GA EPD's recent modeling analyses of 2017 emissions indicate that the lifetime cancer risk from ethylene oxide concentrations in residential areas around the Sterigenics facility in Smyrna falls within the range the EPA generally considers acceptable for lifetime risk.

We understand that Sterigenics has submitted to GA EPD an application to modify the facility's permit that will allow the company to install additional controls to further reduce emissions. The EPA will continue to work with Georgia to identify opportunities for reducing ethylene oxide emissions from the Smyrna Sterigenics facility.

The EPA, in coordination with the GA EPD, has scheduled a community forum for residents surrounding the Smyrna Sterigenics facility on the evening of Monday, August 19, 2019. Participating agencies will share information about ongoing activities to address industrial emissions of ethylene oxide and address residents' questions. The forum will take place at the Cobb Civic Center. More information about the forum will be posted on our website at: [www.epa.gov/smyrna-eto](http://www.epa.gov/smyrna-eto).

If you have questions or need additional information from the EPA please contact me or Brandi J. Jenkins, Director of the Office of Outreach and External Affairs, at (404) 562-8327.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MSW', is positioned above the printed name.

Mary S. Walker  
Regional Administrator





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

NOV 14 2018

The Honorable David A. Perdue  
United State Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Perdue:

Thank you for your and Senator Isakson's October 24, 2018, letter to Andrew Wheeler, Acting Administrator of the U.S Environmental Protection Agency concerning the cleanup and redevelopment of the Terry Creek Dredge Spoils/Hercules Outfall Superfund Site in Brunswick, Georgia. Your letter was forwarded to the EPA Region 4 office for response.

The EPA is aware of the concerns that have been raised by the Brunswick community regarding the Consent Decree for interim remedial action at a portion of the Terry Creek Site. The public comment period has closed and, as part of the Consent Decree process, the EPA is currently working with the U.S. Department of Justice to consider all comments in determining whether to proceed with seeking entry of the Consent Decree in District Court.

The EPA places a high priority on land revitalization as an integral part of Superfund cleanup. Hundreds of communities have reclaimed formerly contaminated Superfund Sites for protective and productive uses. Locally, the EPA worked to return a portion of the LCP Chemical Superfund Site in Brunswick to beneficial reuse while remedial actions are ongoing on other portions of the Site.

At the Terry Creek Site, the EPA worked with the City of Brunswick to determine what the reasonably anticipated future reuse for the Site might be if the property is made available. EPA took the City's recommendations into account in determining the interim cleanup at the subject portion of the Site, which is owned by Hercules, LLC. The cleanup is estimated to take two years to implement and could support industrial, commercial or some possible residential redevelopment once complete. Should the interim cleanup proceed, it will be followed by a future site-wide final cleanup that will be presented to the public for input before a decision is made.

The EPA is committed to cleaning up the Terry Creek Superfund Site so it is protective of human health and the environment and can be returned to beneficial use. If you have questions or need additional information from the EPA, please contact me or Allison Wise, in the Region 4 Office of Government Relations, at (404) 562-8327.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Onis 'Trey' Glenn, III", is located below the "Sincerely," text.

Onis "Trey" Glenn, III  
Regional Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

NOV 14 2018

The Honorable Johnny Isakson  
United State Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Isakson:

Thank you for your and Senator Perdue's October 24, 2018, letter to Andrew Wheeler, Acting Administrator of the U.S Environmental Protection Agency concerning the cleanup and redevelopment of the Terry Creek Dredge Spoils/Hercules Outfall Superfund Site in Brunswick, Georgia. Your letter was forwarded to the EPA Region 4 office for response.

The EPA is aware of the concerns that have been raised by the Brunswick community regarding the Consent Decree for interim remedial action at a portion of the Terry Creek Site. The public comment period has closed and, as part of the Consent Decree process, the EPA is currently working with the U.S. Department of Justice to consider all comments in determining whether to proceed with seeking entry of the Consent Decree in District Court.

The EPA places a high priority on land revitalization as an integral part of Superfund cleanup. Hundreds of communities have reclaimed formerly contaminated Superfund Sites for protective and productive uses. Locally, the EPA worked to return a portion of the LCP Chemical Superfund Site in Brunswick to beneficial reuse while remedial actions are ongoing on other portions of the Site.

At the Terry Creek Site, the EPA worked with the City of Brunswick to determine what the reasonably anticipated future reuse for the Site might be if the property is made available. EPA took the City's recommendations into account in determining the interim cleanup at the subject portion of the Site, which is owned by Hercules, LLC. The cleanup is estimated to take two years to implement and could support industrial, commercial or some possible residential redevelopment once complete. Should the interim cleanup proceed, it will be followed by a future site-wide final cleanup that will be presented to the public for input before a decision is made.

The EPA is committed to cleaning up the Terry Creek Superfund Site so it is protective of human health and the environment and can be returned to beneficial use. If you have questions or need additional information from the EPA, please contact me or Allison Wise, in the Region 4 Office of Government Relations, at (404) 562-8327.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Onis 'Trey' Glenn, III".

Onis "Trey" Glenn, III  
Regional Administrator





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

NOV 14 2018

The Honorable David A. Perdue  
United State Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Perdue:

Thank you for your and Senator Isakson's October 24, 2018, letter to Andrew Wheeler, Acting Administrator of the U.S Environmental Protection Agency concerning the cleanup and redevelopment of the Terry Creek Dredge Spoils/Hercules Outfall Superfund Site in Brunswick, Georgia. Your letter was forwarded to the EPA Region 4 office for response.

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Onis "Trey" Glenn, III  
Regional Administrator





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

NOV 14 2018

The Honorable Johnny Isakson  
United State Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Isakson:

Thank you for your and Senator Perdue's October 24, 2018, letter to Andrew Wheeler, Acting Administrator of the U.S Environmental Protection Agency concerning the cleanup and redevelopment of the Terry Creek Dredge Spoils/Hercules Outfall Superfund Site in Brunswick, Georgia. Your letter was forwarded to the EPA Region 4 office for response.

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Regional Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 16 2015

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY  
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Blunt:

Thank you for your March 30, 2015, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in which you express interest in learning about the steps the EPA is taking to protect pollinator health. I want to assure you that the EPA has been working aggressively to protect bees and other pollinators from the potential effects of pesticides, and we will continue to do so. We are engaged in national and international efforts to address those concerns.

For more than 15 years, the EPA has been working with a broad range of stakeholders – beekeepers, growers, pesticide producers, researchers, as well as federal and state agencies – to improve pollinator protection. While our initial efforts did not yield a clear path forward, the open dialogue among a diverse group of stakeholders brought to light the complexity of the issue. We ramped up our collaborative efforts after Colony Collapse Disorder emerged and the broader issue of pollinator health became an international issue in 2007. We again expanded the range of stakeholder involvement in our efforts following the release of the 2014 *Presidential Memorandum -- Creating a Federal Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators*. That extensive stakeholder input is apparent in the commitments the EPA made in the *National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators*<sup>1</sup> that was published May 19, 2015. I assure you that the EPA will continue engaging grower organizations, beekeepers and other stakeholders most affected by the agency's potential regulatory decisions.

The EPA agrees that the scientific issues concerning the role of pesticides in pollinator declines are complex. We have been reiterating to concerned citizens and elected officials alike the need to ensure that the EPA's regulatory positions do not outpace scientific consensus or otherwise depart from the requirements of federal law. It is our intention to continue on that path.

With respect to research on the impact of the Varroa mite on pollinator health and how the agency calculates the impact of mites on hive counts, Congress has identified the U.S. Department of Agriculture as the lead federal agency on determining the causes and developing solutions for CCD. The USDA has focused on examining Varroa mites and the other factors affecting pollinator health. While the EPA is specifically tasked with determining and mitigating the effects of pesticides, we have also been working collaboratively with the USDA to understand the various factors. At this time, the EPA risk assessments do not quantify the potential role that mites may be having in combination with pesticides; however, the agency is aware of this potential relationship and will continue to monitor open literature and work with the USDA to help address this uncertainty.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/Pollinator%20Health%20Strategy%202015.pdf>  
Internet Address (URL) • <http://www.epa.gov>



You also asked about domestic and international data showing variability in hive counts predating the use of neonicotinoids. Presumably, the data to which you refer is the National Agricultural Statistics Service honey survey data that have shown general declines in the number of colonies used to support honey production since the mid-1940's. These data demonstrate that the number of colonies used in honey production have declined from roughly 6 million colonies in the 40's to roughly 2.7 million currently. This decline has been relatively constant up until the late 1990's when the rate of decline appears to have stabilized. Over the past decade the number of managed colonies used on honey production has hovered around 2.5 million, however, the most current numbers place it at around 2.7 million, a slight increase. The EPA is not aware of a multi-factorial analysis of the NASS data to examine whether neonicotinoid registrations were in any way correlated with colony numbers; however, it is the EPA's understanding that NASS may comment that their surveys/data are not intended to document "loss" per se and that such an analysis may not be appropriate.

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- USDA Economic Research Service's soybean enterprise budgets<sup>2</sup>
- USDA historical usage data (pounds applied) from 1987 to 2004<sup>3</sup>.

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You also asked about "EPA Proprietary Data" that we used in the benefits assessment. The source of the proprietary data is a private market research firm, GfK Kynetec. These data are collected annually from field crop, vegetable and fruit producers. The study design used by GfK Kynetec results in a statistically valid estimate of pesticide use by state and by crop. The information on seed treatments by active ingredient is not publicly available due to the licensing agreement GfK Kynetec requires for use of its data. Although the USDA NASS provides pesticide usage data, it was not adequate for the seed treatment benefits study because it does not include information on seed treatments by active ingredient. Also, the USDA NASS data do not include information on target pest which was important for the soybean seed treatment benefits assessment.

You also asked how often we use EPA-initiated research versus data submitted by the registrant in pesticide product registration and registration review. Sections 3 and 4 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act make clear that the EPA shall require the submission of studies from pesticide applicants and registrants to support registration, registration review and reregistration decisions. Congress placed this obligation on the pesticide registrant rather than requiring the EPA to

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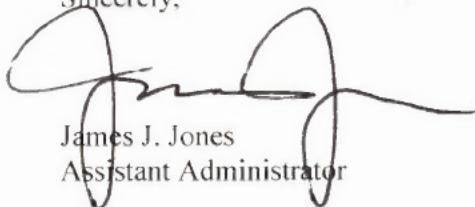
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Finally, you asked if the EPA was consulted on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service decision to ban the use of neonicotinoids on USFWS lands and on the Council on Environmental Quality guidance on the use of neonicotinoids and plant materials treated with this class of chemistry on certain federal properties. Neither the USFWS nor the CEQ consulted the EPA on these issues.

Let me close by reiterating that, at the EPA, we are committed to finding and implementing a wide range of actions to effectively address the complex and varied stressors facing pollinators in this country. We believe that staying abreast of evolving science,<sup>4</sup> communicating with our regulatory partners here and abroad, and working with research scientists and practitioners in laboratories and in the field puts the agency in the best position to account for, in our regulatory decisions, potential effects of neonicotinoid pesticides on honey bees. The registration review process allows the EPA to act quickly if the data and associated scientific evaluations warrant such action. If the risk posed by a pesticide, supported by the best available, peer-reviewed science, cannot be mitigated or managed through other measures, and the agency determines that the pesticide no longer meets the FIFRA standard for registration, then the EPA will move quickly to take appropriate regulatory action.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Mr. Sven-Erik Kaiser in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at [kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov](mailto:kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov) or (202) 566-2753.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'James J. Jones', written over a horizontal line.

James J. Jones  
Assistant Administrator

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.ars.usda.gov/News/docs.htm?docid=15572#research>







UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 16 2015

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY  
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

The Honorable John Boozman  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Boozman:

Thank you for your March 30, 2015, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in which you express interest in learning about the steps the EPA is taking to protect pollinator health. I want to assure you that the EPA has been working aggressively to protect bees and other pollinators from the potential effects of pesticides, and we will continue to do so. We are engaged in national and international efforts to address those concerns.

For more than 15 years, the EPA has been working with a broad range of stakeholders – beekeepers, growers, pesticide producers, researchers, as well as federal and state agencies – to improve pollinator protection. While our initial efforts did not yield a clear path forward, the open dialogue among a diverse group of stakeholders brought to light the complexity of the issue. We ramped up our collaborative efforts after Colony Collapse Disorder emerged and the broader issue of pollinator health became an international issue in 2007. We again expanded the range of stakeholder involvement in our efforts following the release of the 2014 *Presidential Memorandum -- Creating a Federal Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators*. That extensive stakeholder input is apparent in the commitments the EPA made in the *National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators*<sup>1</sup> that was published May 19, 2015. I assure you that the EPA will continue engaging grower organizations, beekeepers and other stakeholders most affected by the agency's potential regulatory decisions.

The EPA agrees that the scientific issues concerning the role of pesticides in pollinator declines are complex. We have been reiterating to concerned citizens and elected officials alike the need to ensure that the EPA's regulatory positions do not outpace scientific consensus or otherwise depart from the requirements of federal law. It is our intention to continue on that path.

With respect to research on the impact of the Varroa mite on pollinator health and how the agency calculates the impact of mites on hive counts, Congress has identified the U.S. Department of Agriculture as the lead federal agency on determining the causes and developing solutions for CCD. The USDA has focused on examining Varroa mites and the other factors affecting pollinator health. While the EPA is specifically tasked with determining and mitigating the effects of pesticides, we have also been working collaboratively with the USDA to understand the various factors. At this time, the EPA risk assessments do not quantify the potential role that mites may be having in combination with pesticides; however, the agency is aware of this potential relationship and will continue to monitor open literature and work with the USDA to help address this uncertainty.

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You also asked about domestic and international data showing variability in hive counts predating the use of neonicotinoids. Presumably, the data to which you refer is the National Agricultural Statistics Service honey survey data that have shown general declines in the number of colonies used to support honey production since the mid-1940's. These data demonstrate that the number of colonies used in honey production have declined from roughly 6 million colonies in the 40's to roughly 2.7 million currently. This decline has been relatively constant up until the late 1990's when the rate of decline appears to have stabilized. Over the past decade the number of managed colonies used on honey production has hovered around 2.5 million, however, the most current numbers place it at around 2.7 million, a slight increase. The EPA is not aware of a multi-factorial analysis of the NASS data to examine whether neonicotinoid registrations were in any way correlated with colony numbers; however, it is the EPA's understanding that NASS may comment that their surveys/data are not intended to document "loss" per se and that such an analysis may not be appropriate.

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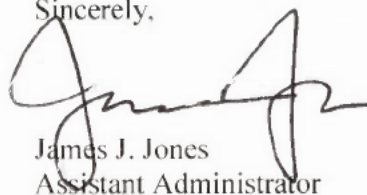
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Let me close by reiterating that, at the EPA, we are committed to finding and implementing a wide range of actions to effectively address the complex and varied stressors facing pollinators in this country. We believe that staying abreast of evolving science,<sup>4</sup> communicating with our regulatory partners here and abroad, and working with research scientists and practitioners in laboratories and in the field puts the agency in the best position to account for, in our regulatory decisions, potential effects of neonicotinoid pesticides on honey bees. The registration review process allows the EPA to act quickly if the data and associated scientific evaluations warrant such action. If the risk posed by a pesticide, supported by the best available, peer-reviewed science, cannot be mitigated or managed through other measures, and the agency determines that the pesticide no longer meets the FIFRA standard for registration, then the EPA will move quickly to take appropriate regulatory action.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Mr. Sven-Erik Kaiser in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at [kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov](mailto:kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov) or (202) 566-2753.

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James J. Jones  
Assistant Administrator

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 16 2015

The Honorable Richard Burr  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY  
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

Dear Senator Burr:

Thank you for your March 30, 2015, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in which you express interest in learning about the steps the EPA is taking to protect pollinator health. I want to assure you that the EPA has been working aggressively to protect bees and other pollinators from the potential effects of pesticides, and we will continue to do so. We are engaged in national and international efforts to address those concerns.

For more than 15 years, the EPA has been working with a broad range of stakeholders – beekeepers, growers, pesticide producers, researchers, as well as federal and state agencies – to improve pollinator protection. While our initial efforts did not yield a clear path forward, the open dialogue among a diverse group of stakeholders brought to light the complexity of the issue. We ramped up our collaborative efforts after Colony Collapse Disorder emerged and the broader issue of pollinator health became an international issue in 2007. We again expanded the range of stakeholder involvement in our efforts following the release of the 2014 *Presidential Memorandum -- Creating a Federal Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators*. That extensive stakeholder input is apparent in the commitments the EPA made in the *National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators*<sup>1</sup> that was published May 19, 2015. I assure you that the EPA will continue engaging grower organizations, beekeepers and other stakeholders most affected by the agency's potential regulatory decisions.

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With respect to research on the impact of the Varroa mite on pollinator health and how the agency calculates the impact of mites on hive counts, Congress has identified the U.S. Department of Agriculture as the lead federal agency on determining the causes and developing solutions for CCD. The USDA has focused on examining Varroa mites and the other factors affecting pollinator health. While the EPA is specifically tasked with determining and mitigating the effects of pesticides, we have also been working collaboratively with the USDA to understand the various factors. At this time, the EPA risk assessments do not quantify the potential role that mites may be having in combination with pesticides; however, the agency is aware of this potential relationship and will continue to monitor open literature and work with the USDA to help address this uncertainty.

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Internet Address (URL) • <http://www.epa.gov>

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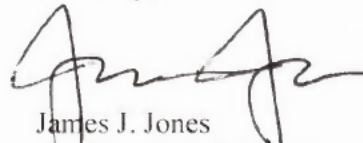
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Let me close by reiterating that, at the EPA, we are committed to finding and implementing a wide range of actions to effectively address the complex and varied stressors facing pollinators in this country. We believe that staying abreast of evolving science,<sup>4</sup> communicating with our regulatory partners here and abroad, and working with research scientists and practitioners in laboratories and in the field puts the agency in the best position to account for, in our regulatory decisions, potential effects of neonicotinoid pesticides on honey bees. The registration review process allows the EPA to act quickly if the data and associated scientific evaluations warrant such action. If the risk posed by a pesticide, supported by the best available, peer-reviewed science, cannot be mitigated or managed through other measures, and the agency determines that the pesticide no longer meets the FIFRA standard for registration, then the EPA will move quickly to take appropriate regulatory action.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Mr. Sven-Erik Kaiser in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at [kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov](mailto:kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov) or (202) 566-2753.

Sincerely,



James J. Jones  
Assistant Administrator

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.ars.usda.gov/News/docs.htm?docid=15572#research>







UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 16 2015

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY  
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

The Honorable Michael D. Crapo  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Crapo:

Thank you for your March 30, 2015, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in which you express interest in learning about the steps the EPA is taking to protect pollinator health. I want to assure you that the EPA has been working aggressively to protect bees and other pollinators from the potential effects of pesticides, and we will continue to do so. We are engaged in national and international efforts to address those concerns.

For more than 15 years, the EPA has been working with a broad range of stakeholders – beekeepers, growers, pesticide producers, researchers, as well as federal and state agencies – to improve pollinator protection. While our initial efforts did not yield a clear path forward, the open dialogue among a diverse group of stakeholders brought to light the complexity of the issue. We ramped up our collaborative efforts after Colony Collapse Disorder emerged and the broader issue of pollinator health became an international issue in 2007. We again expanded the range of stakeholder involvement in our efforts following the release of the 2014 *Presidential Memorandum -- Creating a Federal Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators*. That extensive stakeholder input is apparent in the commitments the EPA made in the *National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators*<sup>1</sup> that was published May 19, 2015. I assure you that the EPA will continue engaging grower organizations, beekeepers and other stakeholders most affected by the agency's potential regulatory decisions.

The EPA agrees that the scientific issues concerning the role of pesticides in pollinator declines are complex. We have been reiterating to concerned citizens and elected officials alike the need to ensure that the EPA's regulatory positions do not outpace scientific consensus or otherwise depart from the requirements of federal law. It is our intention to continue on that path.

With respect to research on the impact of the Varroa mite on pollinator health and how the agency calculates the impact of mites on hive counts, Congress has identified the U.S. Department of Agriculture as the lead federal agency on determining the causes and developing solutions for CCD. The USDA has focused on examining Varroa mites and the other factors affecting pollinator health. While the EPA is specifically tasked with determining and mitigating the effects of pesticides, we have also been working collaboratively with the USDA to understand the various factors. At this time, the EPA risk assessments do not quantify the potential role that mites may be having in combination with pesticides; however, the agency is aware of this potential relationship and will continue to monitor open literature and work with the USDA to help address this uncertainty.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/Pollinator%20Health%20Strategy%202015.pdf>  
Internet Address (URL) • <http://www.epa.gov>

You also asked about domestic and international data showing variability in hive counts predating the use of neonicotinoids. Presumably, the data to which you refer is the National Agricultural Statistics Service honey survey data that have shown general declines in the number of colonies used to support honey production since the mid-1940's. These data demonstrate that the number of colonies used in honey production have declined from roughly 6 million colonies in the 40's to roughly 2.7 million currently. This decline has been relatively constant up until the late 1990's when the rate of decline appears to have stabilized. Over the past decade the number of managed colonies used on honey production has hovered around 2.5 million, however, the most current numbers place it at around 2.7 million, a slight increase. The EPA is not aware of a multi-factorial analysis of the NASS data to examine whether neonicotinoid registrations were in any way correlated with colony numbers; however, it is the EPA's understanding that NASS may comment that their surveys/data are not intended to document "loss" per se and that such an analysis may not be appropriate.

Regarding the benefits analysis of neonicotinoid seed treatments in soybean production that the EPA released last fall, the agency chose to focus first on the neonicotinoid seed treatments for soybeans following published reports questioning the benefits of neonicotinoid insecticides in soybeans. Our assessment compared the yield benefits and costs of soybeans grown from neonicotinoid-treated seed with soybeans grown using other pest control strategies. In addition to acreage and price data from the NASS, the EPA used the following USDA data sources in conducting its analysis:

- USDA Economic Research Service's soybean enterprise budgets<sup>2</sup>
- USDA historical usage data (pounds applied) from 1987 to 2004<sup>3</sup>.

I should also mention that it was not an analysis of efficacy. The EPA typically assesses the benefits of a chemical on a crop by crop basis, and the report on soybean seed treatment is the first completed for the neonicotinoids. The EPA will perform additional benefits assessments and incorporate our findings as we complete the re-evaluation of the neonicotinoids. With respect to how the soybean study will be used in the EPA's regulatory decisions, if the risks associated with the seed treatment use of the neonicotinoids in soybeans outweigh the benefits, the EPA will consider taking additional regulatory action to address these concerns.

You also asked about "EPA Proprietary Data" that we used in the benefits assessment. The source of the proprietary data is a private market research firm, GfK Kynetec. These data are collected annually from field crop, vegetable and fruit producers. The study design used by GfK Kynetec results in a statistically valid estimate of pesticide use by state and by crop. The information on seed treatments by active ingredient is not publicly available due to the licensing agreement GfK Kynetec requires for use of its data. Although the USDA NASS provides pesticide usage data, it was not adequate for the seed treatment benefits study because it does not include information on seed treatments by active ingredient. Also, the USDA NASS data do not include information on target pest which was important for the soybean seed treatment benefits assessment.

You also asked how often we use EPA-initiated research versus data submitted by the registrant in pesticide product registration and registration review. Sections 3 and 4 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act make clear that the EPA shall require the submission of studies from pesticide applicants and registrants to support registration, registration review and reregistration decisions. Congress placed this obligation on the pesticide registrant rather than requiring the EPA to

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<sup>2</sup> USDA ERS, 2014, Commodity Costs and Returns: Soybeans. [ers.usda.gov/data-products/commodity-costs-and-returns.aspx#.U3yycfldWZ28](http://ers.usda.gov/data-products/commodity-costs-and-returns.aspx#.U3yycfldWZ28)

<sup>3</sup> Fernandez-Cornejo et al., 2014 Pesticide Use in U.S. Agriculture: 21 Selected Crops, 1960-2008. USDA-Economic Research Service Economic Information Bulletin Number 124. pp 65-68.



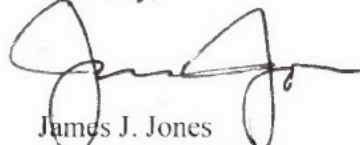
develop and fund such data development. In addition to registrant-submitted studies, EPA scientists also review pesticide studies from peer-reviewed scientific journals and data from a wide variety of sources when they are available.

Finally, you asked if the EPA was consulted on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service decision to ban the use of neonicotinoids on USFWS lands and on the Council on Environmental Quality guidance on the use of neonicotinoids and plant materials treated with this class of chemistry on certain federal properties. Neither the USFWS nor the CEQ consulted the EPA on these issues.

Let me close by reiterating that, at the EPA, we are committed to finding and implementing a wide range of actions to effectively address the complex and varied stressors facing pollinators in this country. We believe that staying abreast of evolving science,<sup>4</sup> communicating with our regulatory partners here and abroad, and working with research scientists and practitioners in laboratories and in the field puts the agency in the best position to account for, in our regulatory decisions, potential effects of neonicotinoid pesticides on honey bees. The registration review process allows the EPA to act quickly if the data and associated scientific evaluations warrant such action. If the risk posed by a pesticide, supported by the best available, peer-reviewed science, cannot be mitigated or managed through other measures, and the agency determines that the pesticide no longer meets the FIFRA standard for registration, then the EPA will move quickly to take appropriate regulatory action.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Mr. Sven-Erik Kaiser in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at [kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov](mailto:kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov) or (202) 566-2753.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James J. Jones', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

James J. Jones  
Assistant Administrator

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.ars.usda.gov/News/docs.htm?docid=15572#research>

